

Board Minutes

Date: January 12, 2021

Location: Virtual

Board Members Present: Cindy Pierce, Kira Royal, Nancy Herrick, Jason Smith

Guests: DOE Leaja Horne

Call to Order:

- Meeting called to order at 4:35, and Nancy Herrick read the mission statement aloud.

Minutes Approval:

- Full Board review of the December 2020 meeting minutes.
 - Upon a motion by Kira Royal, seconded by Jason Smith, and unanimously approved by roll call, it was:
 - **MOVED: To accept the minutes.**
- Agenda
 - Upon a motion by Cindy Pierce, seconded by Kira Royal, and unanimously approved by roll call, it was:
 - **MOVED: To accept the agenda.**

DOE Report:

*Leaja Horne presented an overview of enrollment. Enrollment is the same as reported last meeting with the exception of one fifth grade withdrawal. Fifty-seven applications have been received for the next school year and one hundred eighteen current students have indicated intent to return. A classroom will be added therefore the total available seats will increase to 189.

*The COVID dashboard is now active for public viewing.

*The Parent Committee has been generating ideas for fundraising and DOT signage.

*The School Improvement Committee did not meet last month. The next meeting will be January 26 at 3:30pm.

*EC will receive funding in April based on December headcount.

*Ray Strain will be talking to Acadia about how long it is taking to pay out invoices.

*Buses have been towed at least three times each incurring high costs.

*General discussion initiated by Nancy Herrick concerning low scores of third graders on BOG test and whether the scores were expected. Leaja Horne indicated the lower scores were anticipated due to this being the first time the children have taken a standardized test as well as not having had traditional schooling for several months prior.

New Business:

General review and discussion of the recently written Abuse and Molestation policy was initiated by Nancy Herrick. Nancy Herrick asked if the policy is general or specific to sexual abuse. Leaja Horne stated that insurance labels the policy as abuse and molestation and a template has been used for content. NH indicated that a read thru implicates policy is specifically sexual and does not include physical and neglect. Kira Royal said definitions include abuse and physical but not neglect. LH said neglect is addressed in the handbook. NH would change “disciplined” to “dealt with” and remove sexual and include any type. Cindy Pierce voiced concern over the verbiage “reasonably suspected or believed” as it indicates subjective judgement.

Upon a motion by Cindy Pierce, seconded by Kira Royal, and unanimously approved by roll call, it was:

- **MOVED: To table the policy for revision.**

Other:

Nancy Herrick stated she has received a resume from potential Board member Andora Calhoun.

- Cindy Pierce made a motion to adjourn. Kira Royal seconded. Remaining board members approved adjournment by roll call.

Meeting adjourned 5:35pm

Secretary Approval: _____

